

Decision Making Constructs in a Distributed Environment (DCODE)

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Report Documentation Page

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Overall Objectives and this year's Objectives

Overall Objectives: the development of a decision support tool for reducing the problems involved with the storing, sharing and integration of subjective information assessments.

Use the quantification and sharing of these subjective assessments to <u>improve the quality of group decision making</u> and to significantly reduce the time devoted to conflict resolution and team consensus building.

This year's objectives are:

- (1) the <u>transition</u> of the DCODE to the user community
- (2) continued <u>research</u> to demonstrate the efficacy of DCODE
- (3) improved documentation and publication of the DCODE tool.



Research Questions Addressed

(1) How can knowledge elicitation techniques be designed that capture the major subjective information assessments needed for each decision-relevant information item

...but does not place an unacceptable cognitive/time burden on the user?

- (2) Research indicates that a minimum set of 3 6 essential assessments might be required for each item. How do we configure a simplified user interface that can score, display and quantify all these required subjective assessments?
- (3) In a group decision making environment, how can these individual information assessments be quickly shared/transferred among participants to minimize the time the group devotes to conflict resolution and the building of a consensus.



Technical Approach

Follow this DCODE process for all decision relevant information:

- Abstract
- Encapsulate
- Assess
- Integrate
- Share
- Decide



DCODE Information Abstraction and Encapsulation

Mission: Rescue hostages from Islandia

Decision Options: Marines; SEALS; Army

Factors: Speed (ETA), Covertness, Risk, etc

CINCPAC email

To: LTCJohnson@cincpac.mil From: steve.thomas@noaa.gov Subject: Islandia tides and currents

Hello LTC Johnson

I have been looking at detailed marine charts of Islandia'a reef system. Based on this analysis I would say that only one small section of the reef (coordinate G17) is passable, and then only at PEAK high tide. This will next occur at 1700 10/14. The word of caution is that the soundings are over 25 years old and may have changed (either for the better or the worse) regarding ease of crossing.

V/R Steve Thomas



Situation Assessment: Is Carlos still in Columbia?

Homeland Security email

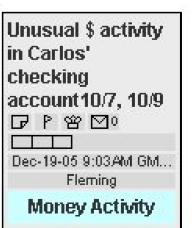
To: joseph.donovan@dea.gov From: william.kays@omb.gov Subject: Re: acct. activity

Mr. Donovan

Fred Barnes in Finance Tracking informs me within the last 10 days, \$27K was deposited in the referenced account (10/7) and \$25K was withdrawn on 10/9. This is unusual activity for this account

V/R Bill Kays

Information is Abstracted, Encapsulated but NOT Assessed!

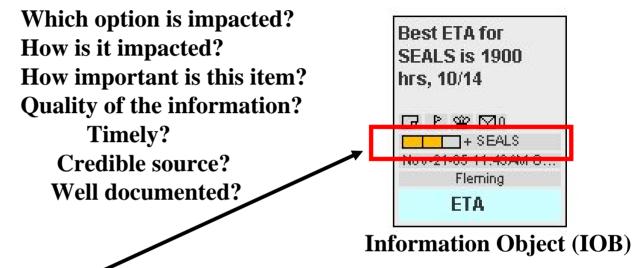




DCODE Information Assessment



EWall Information Card



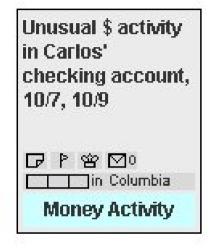
This DCODE coding

tells me that this information ...

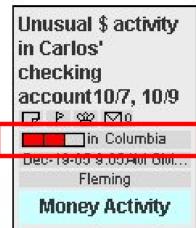
- •Negatively impacts the viability of the using the SEALS option.
- •Is considered of high importance.
- •There is some issue with the quality of this information.



DCODE Information Assessment (cont.)



Every time Carlos has left Columbia, there have been large deposits and withdrawals in his account



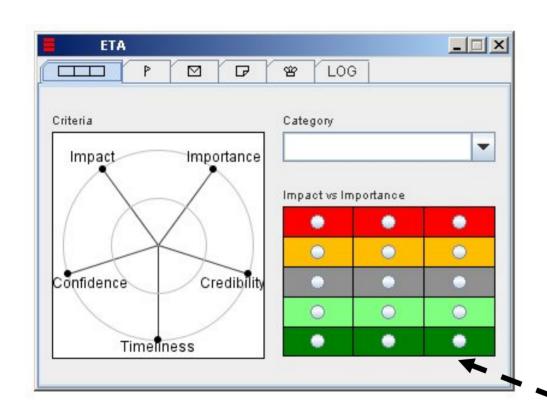
This DCODE coding

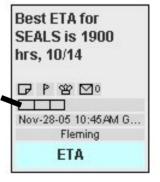
tells me that this information ...

- •Very Negatively impacts the likelihood Carlos is in Columbia.
- •Is considered of high importance.
- •There is no question about the quality of the information.



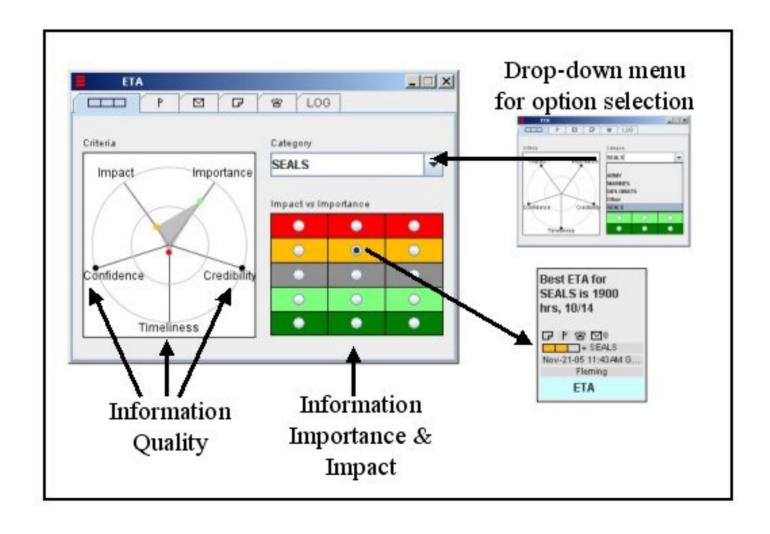
Activating the Development, Inc. DCODE Assessment Template





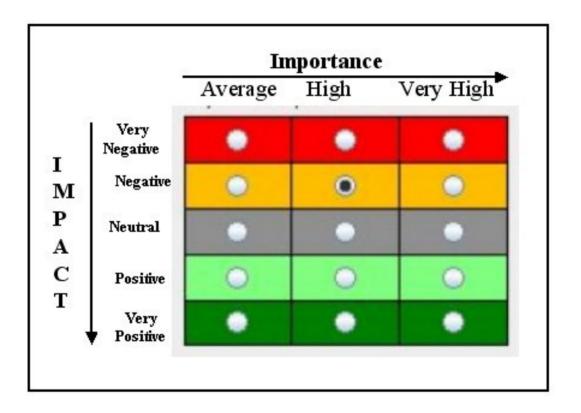


The Assessment Template



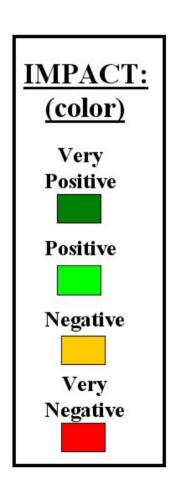


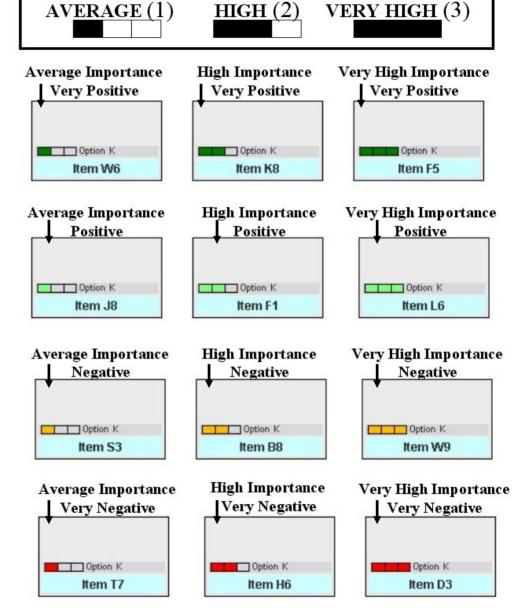
Scoring Impact and Importance



Item is of "High" importance (2 boxes) and has a "Negative" impact (yellow) on this option.

IMPORTANCE (# boxes filled):



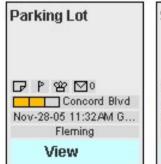




Sample DCODE Assessments

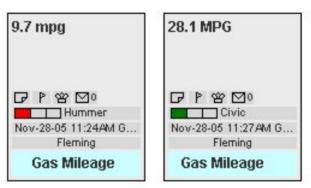
Selecting a House







Selecting a Car



Selecting a College



Single Option: Buy stock "A"?



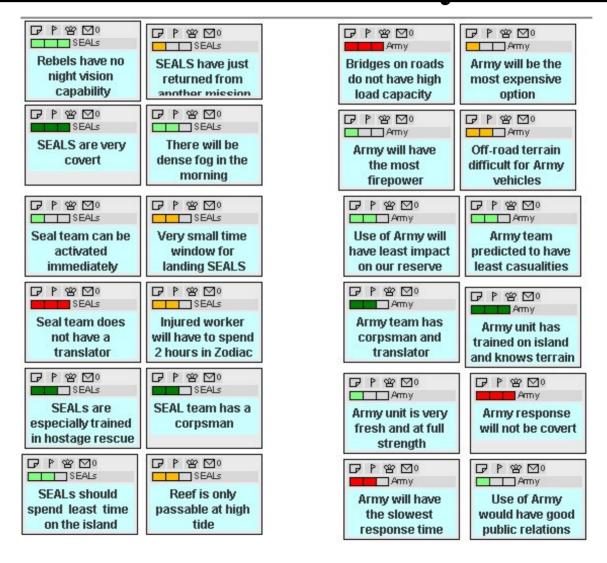






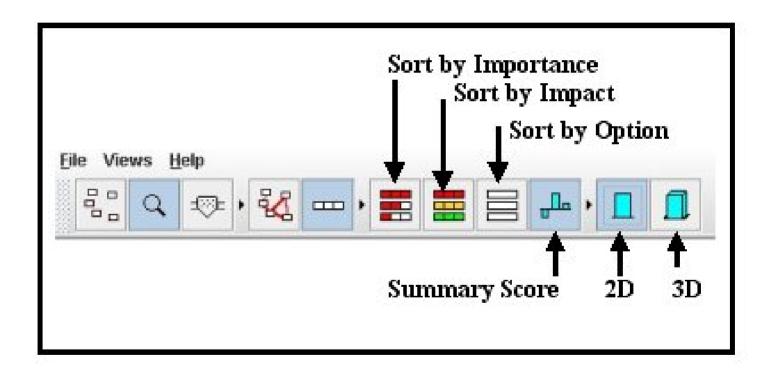


Which is the BEST option, SEALs or Army?



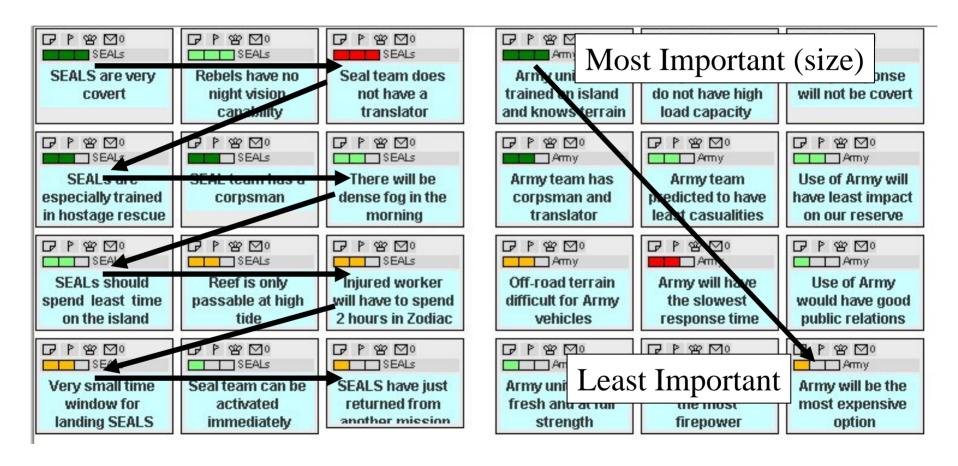


Integration of IOBs



Research & Engineering Development, Inc. (RED-Inc)

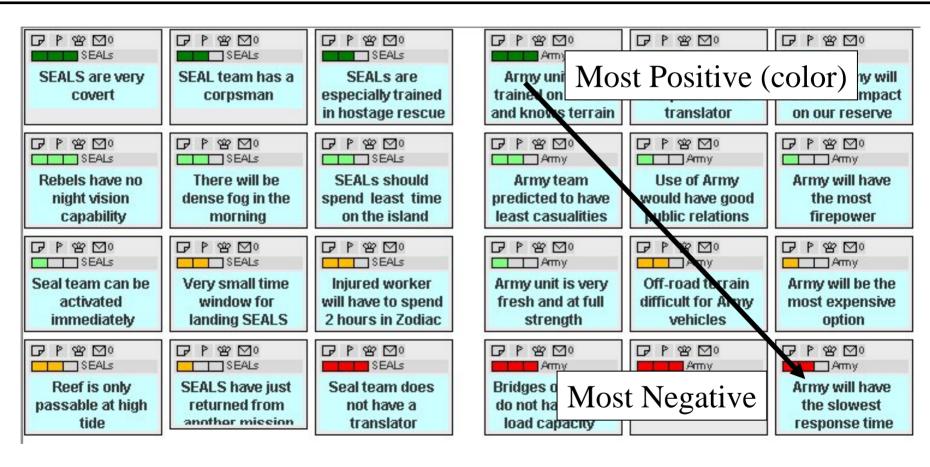
Sorted by Importance: Very High – High -- Average





Sorted by Impact:

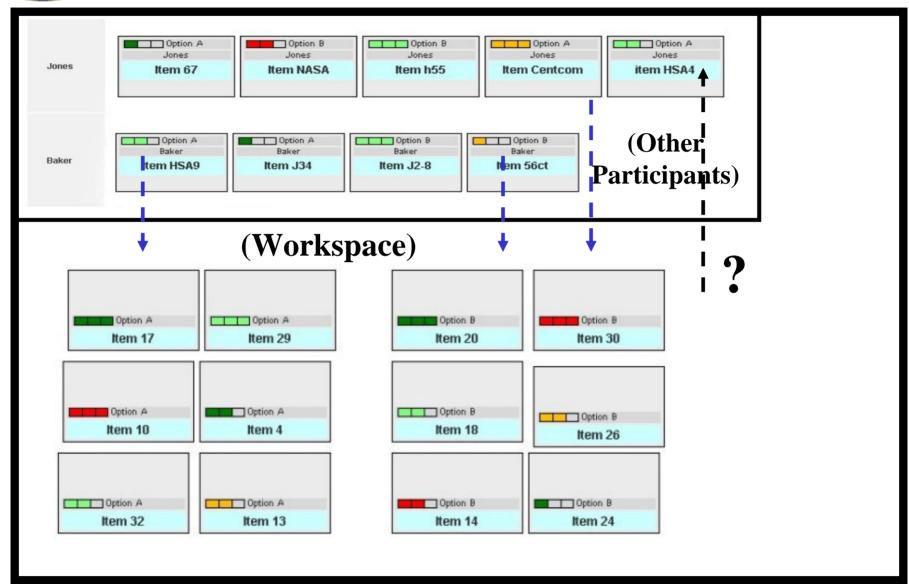
Very Positive, Positive, Negative, Very Negative





DCODE Sharing

Research & Engineering Development, Inc. (RED-Inc)

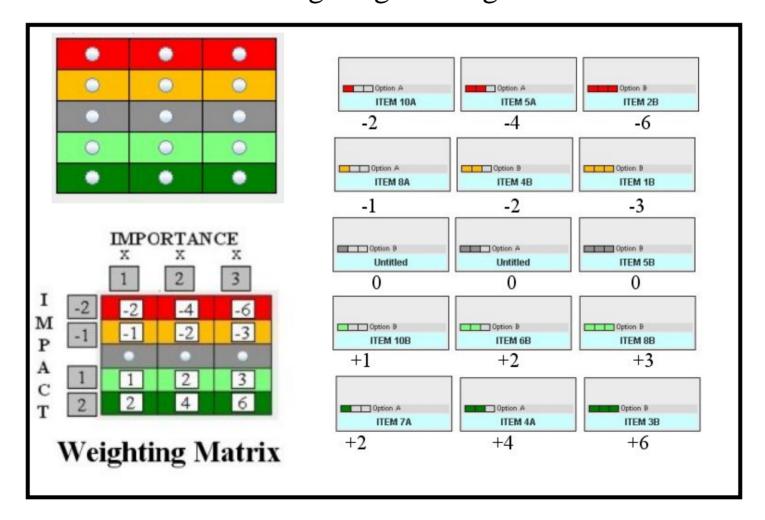


Smith's Display (EWall workspace + Exchange view)



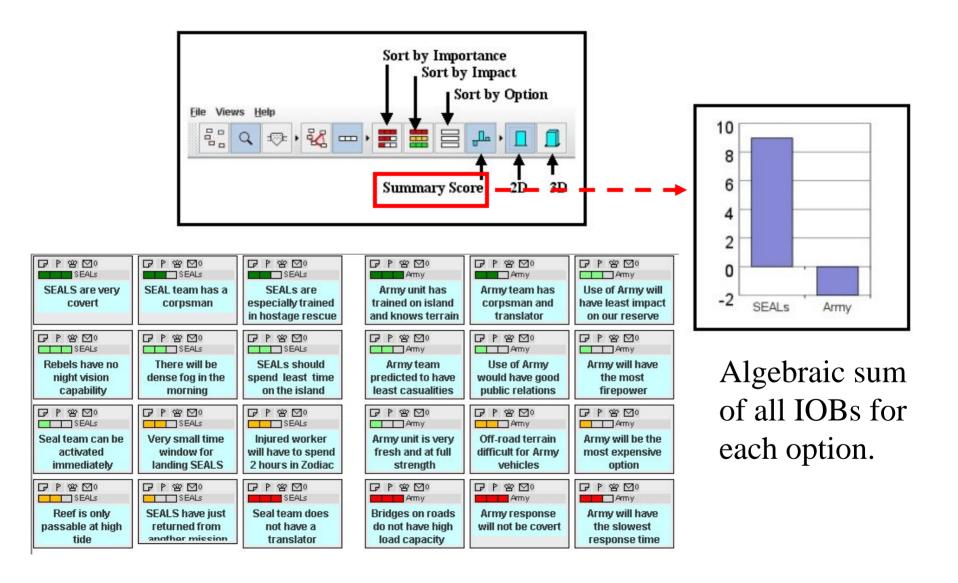
Making Decisions with DCODE

The Weighting/Scoring matrix



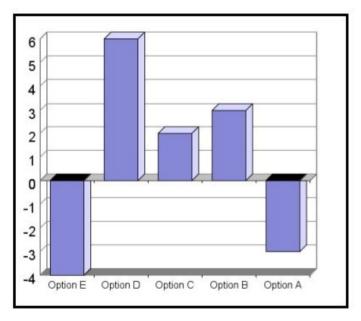


Summary Score Bar Chart

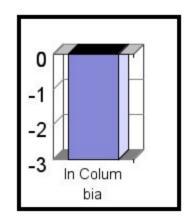




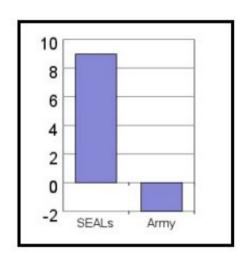
Sample DCODE Summary Results



Multiple Options



Single Option (Yes-NO,Act-Don't Act)



Two Options



Short AVI on DCODE use (2 min 40 sec)

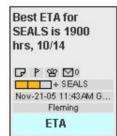


DCODE Process



- Abstract
- Encapsulate

Assess



- Option
- •Importance
- •Impact
- Quality

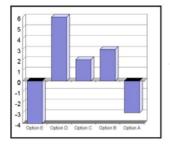




Integrate/Sort

• Share





Decide



Experiments (Planned/Completed)

NEED YOUR HELP!



Research Question:

Does the use of the DCODE Assessment bar improve decision making quality?

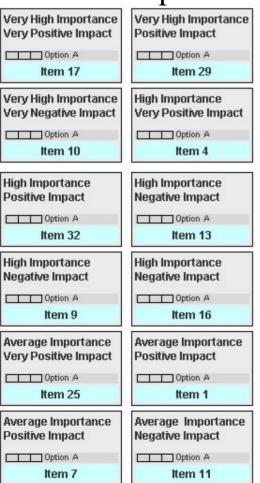
Decision Task: Rank order three candidate cities (A, B and C) in terms of preference as a location for a new store.

12 information items about each city.



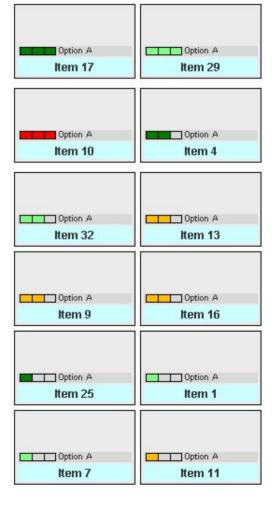
2-Group Design Text vs. DCODE Bar

Text Group



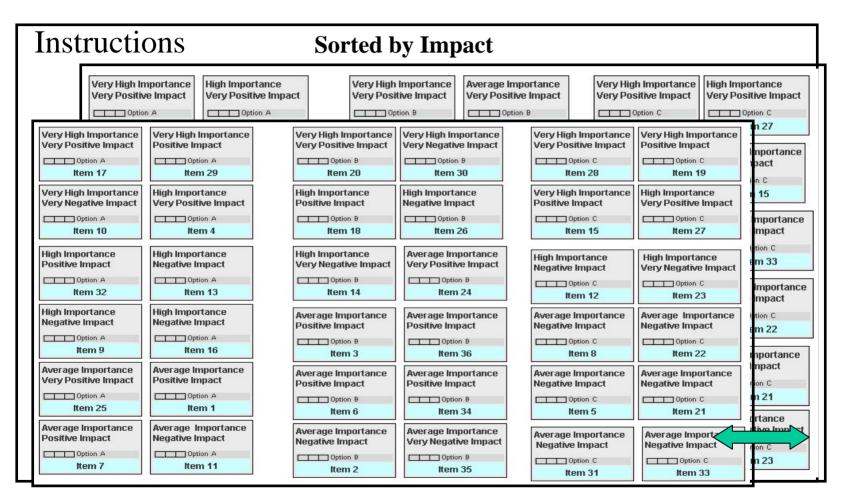
Functionally equivalent

DCODE Group





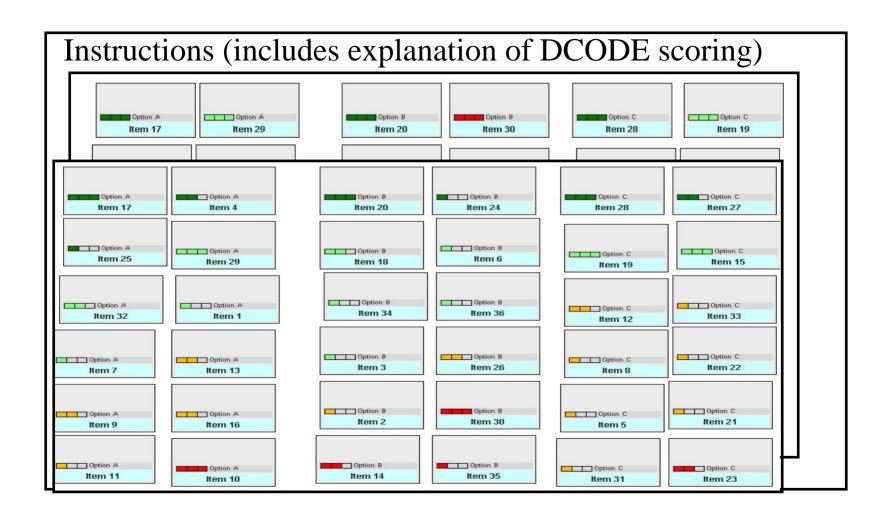
Text Group



Sorted by Importance

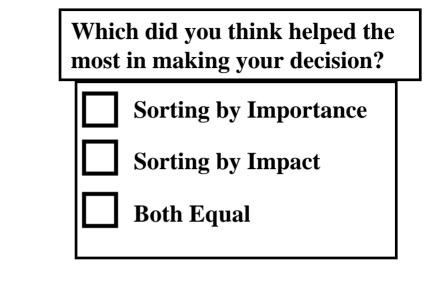


DCODE Group



Scoring Sheet

- -Write your choice as <u>Best</u> option on the "100" line.
- -Write your choice as <u>Worst</u> option on the "0" line.
- -Circle the number that best represents where you would assign the remaining option.



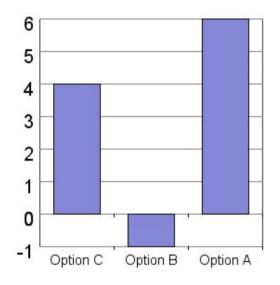
How would you assess your confidence in the assigned ratings?

Male
Female

___Very High
___High
___Above Average
__Average
__Below Average
__Low
__Very Low



"Correct" Response



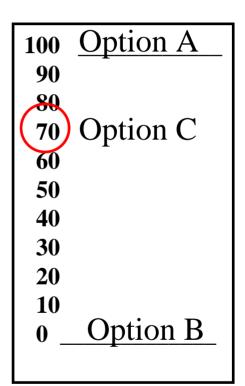
Option A = +6

Option B = -1

Option C = +4

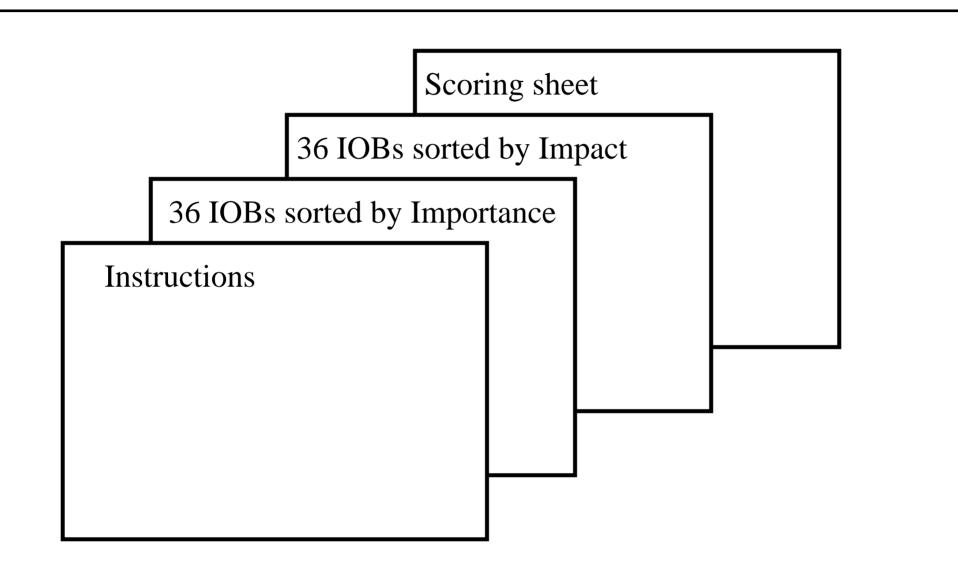
Distance from Worst to Best = 7

Option C is 5/7 of the way = 71%



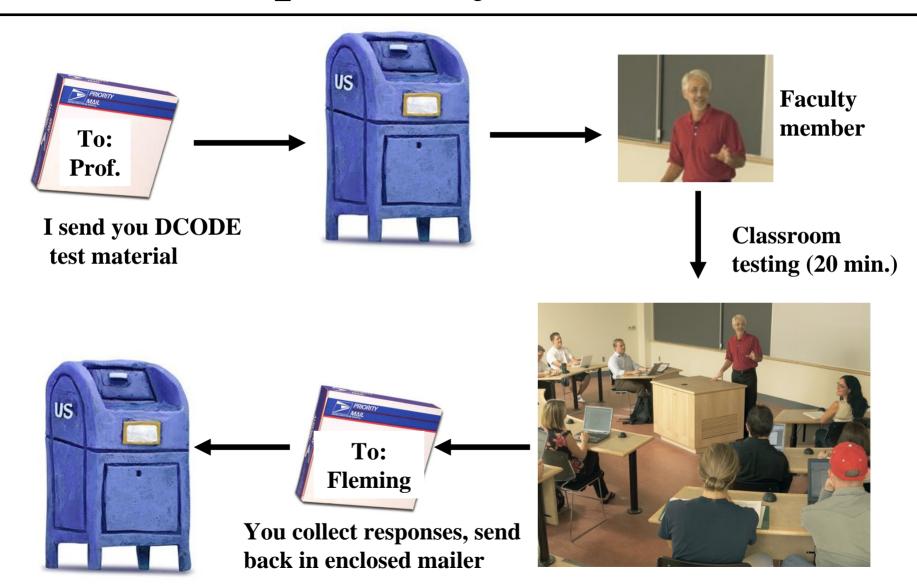


Subject gets 4-sheet booklet:





Request to you...





Technology Demonstrations Planned

In Progress:

• Human Systems Performance Assessment Capabilities (HSPAC)

Possible:

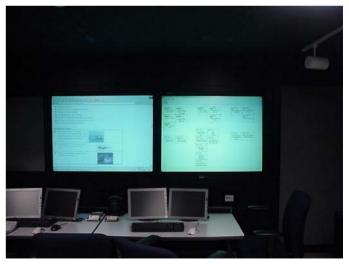
- Composable FORCEnet
- Trident Warrior
- Expeditionary Strike Group 1 (ESG-1)



The Human Systems Performance Assessment Capability (HSPAC)

- •The Human Systems Performance Assessment Capability (HSPAC), is a Navy infrastructure that will allow individual and system-level human performance to be assessed and certified.
- The Usability and Engineering Research Lab and the Composeable FORCEnet Human Systems Integration (CFnHSI) Lab in Point Loma, Calif., will be a key part of this distributed capability.
- HSPAC will enhance fleet readiness and operational effectiveness at the lowest total ownership cost by providing personnel, expertise, equipment, connectivity, tools, models, environments and alliances necessary to measure, analyze, assess and certify Sailor performance in warfighter systems across all life-cycle phases.





Composeable FORCEnet (CFn)

A major goal of Composeable FORCEnet is to provide mechanisms to transform information into knowledge in a manner that directly supports decision making at all levels of command in a Joint and combined warfighting environment.

Grand CFn Challenges

- Technical Challenges
 - Reality of "Open Systems"
 - Multi-level Security and Information pedigree and trust issues
 - Network Access, Bandwidth, Latencies, QOS
 - o Computing Infrastructure
 - Situation Awareness / Decision Support (Cognition) Development, and Application of Modeling and Simulation

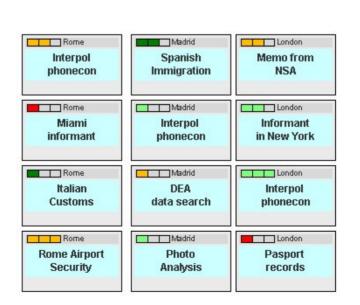


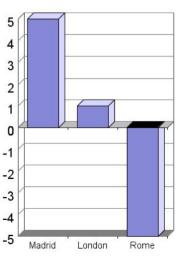
Technology Demonstrations Planned (Intelligence Community)

"Is Carlos still in Columbia?" (situation assessment)



"Where <u>is</u> Carlos?" (option selection)





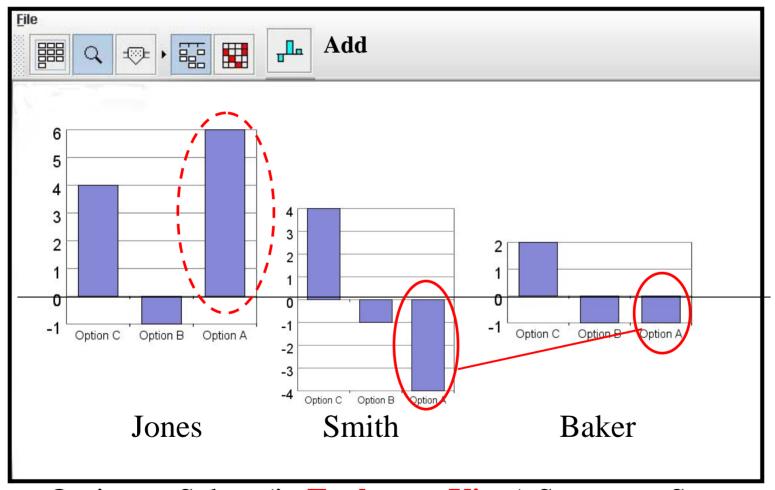


Expected Final Products

- Shrink wrapped, robust version of EWall/DCODE software
- Detailed User's Manual (PDF format)
 - Supporting AVI's
- Research results demonstrating the efficacy of DCODE as a decision support tool.
- Briefs/support/transitions to candidate user community



#1 Priority DCODE Software Enhancement

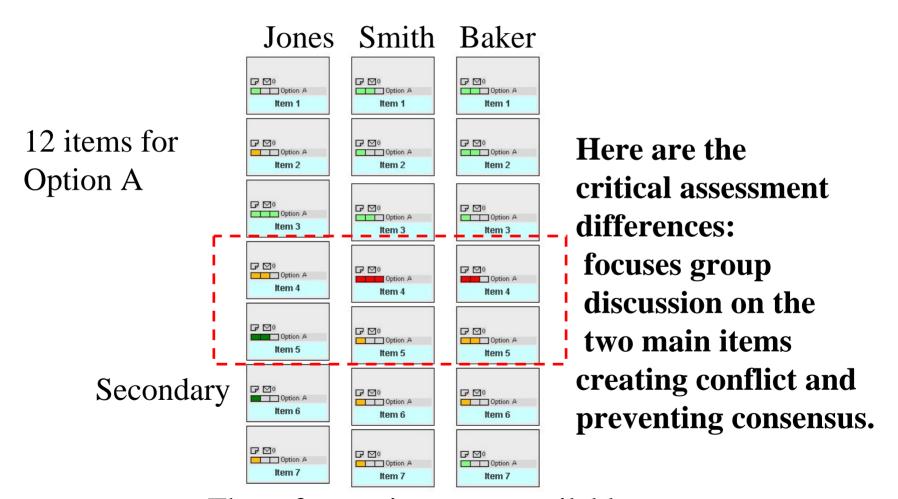


Option to Select (in Exchange View) Summary Score display for all participants



Reaching Consensus:

Where are the critical differences?



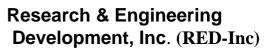
These feature is not yet available



Planned Publications

"Quantification of subjective information assessments in C2 decision option selection"

Cowen, M and Fleming, R. Paper accepted at Command and Control Research and Technology Symposium, San Diego, June 14-17, 2006.







Project Presentation

- Focus of project presentations is the <u>technical exchange of ideas</u> in collaboration and knowledge management.
- At a minimum, the following topics should be addressed in the presentation:
 - 1. Project Title / Research Team Members
 - 2. Overall Objectives and this year's Objectives
 - 3. Research Questions Addressed
 - 4. Technical Approach
 - 5. Experiments (Planned/Completed) and Results (if available)
 - 6. Technology Demonstrations Planned
 - 7. Expected Final Products/where to be used
 - 8. Identify Recent or Planned Publications

• Presentation Time: 30 minute brief, 10 minute Q&A